

GAMBRILL HOUSE
(Edgewood, Boscobel)
Monocacy National Battlefield
Behind 4801 Urbana Pike
Frederick vicinity
Frederick County
Maryland

HABS NO. MD-1051

HABS
MD,
11-FRED.V,
18-

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS
PHOTOGRAPHS AND
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

THE GAMBRILL HOUSE
(Edgewood, Boscobel)
HABS NO. MD-1051

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MD,
11-FRED.V,
18-

Location: Monocacy National Battlefield, behind 4801 Urbana Pike, Urbana, Frederick County, Maryland

Present Owner and Occupant U. S. National Park Service (Monocacy National Battlefield)

Present Use: Awaiting restoration for use as National Park Service facility.

Significance: The Gambrill House was built ca. 1872 for James H. Gambrill, a successful Frederick County miller. Gambrill built the Second-Empire style mansion on high ground overlooking Araby Mill, a gristmill and the source of his prosperity. At the time it was one of the county's largest and grandest residences. The mansard-roofed building was one of the few full expressions of the Second-Empire style built in the Frederick County countryside.

The National Park Service acquired the Gambrill property in 1981, to be part of Monocacy National Battlefield. The Battle of Monocacy (July 9, 1864) was fought on this and neighboring farms. Though the Confederacy won a nominal victory, Union commander Lew Wallace succeeded in delaying Confederate Jubal A. Early long enough to prevent the latter's seizure of Washington. The Gambrill House had yet to be built at the time of the battle. The mansion relates to the Civil War-period of the community, however, in that it is representative of the rebuilding and improvement that took place locally during the immediate post-war years.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Ca. 1872. In May 1873 James H. Gambrill's tax assessment was raised, due to his "new brick mansion [with] mansard roof."

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2. Architect: Not known.

3. Original and subsequent owners: Reference is to the Land Records of Frederick County, Maryland, which fall under the supervision of the Frederick County Circuit Court.

- 1864 Deed March 3, 1864, recorded in Liber JWLC 1, folios 204-206.
 Calvin Page, of Frederick County
 To
 James H. Gambrill.
- 1897 Deed December 6, 1897, recorded in Liber DHH 1, folios 13-16.
 Charles W. Ross, Robert G. Gambrill, and John S. Newman, of Frederick County, trustees for James H. Gambrill
 To
 Minnie Leigh Mercer (daughter of James H. Gambrill).
- 1901 Deed March 4, 1901, recorded in Liber DHH 11, folios 318-321.
 Minnie Leigh Mercer, of Washington, D. C., and husband Carroll, of San Francisco, California
 To
 Samuel Maddox, and Samuel A. Drury, trustees (evidently for Alexander R. Magruder).
- 1922 Deed June 2, 1922, recorded in Liber 340, folios 292-293.
 Alexander R. Magruder and wife Elinor Palmer Magruder, of Constantinople, Turkey, and Isabel M. Robottom (former wife of Magruder) and husband Percy Kent Robottom, of Newport County, Rhode Island
 To
 Ai B. Smith and wife Fannie.
- 1952 Deed October 17, 1952, recorded in Liber 508, folios 128-130.
 Fannie M. Smith, widow, and William A. Smith, unmarried (son of Ai Smith), of Frederick County
 To
 H. Kiefer DeLauter.

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Deed October 17, 1952, recorded in Liber 508,
folios 131-132.

H. Kiefer DeLauter
To
Fannie Smith, widow.

1961 Deed October 4, 1961, recorded in Liber 659,
folios 20-22.
Edgar R. Smith, executor for the estate of
Fannie M. Smith
To
A. Earl Vivino and wife Jean J. Vivino.

1981 Deed December 16, 1981, recorded in Liber
1163, folios 739-742.
A. Earl Vivino and wife Jean J. Vivino, of
Frederick
To
United States of America (National Park
Service).

4. Original plans and construction: On each floor, the southwest side of the main block originally had but one large room (though on the second floor this room was divided in two by a partial partition with wide pocket doors). On the second and third floors, at the front (or northwest) end of the center passage, there was a small "tower room." The northeast side of the main block, adjacent to the ell, had two rooms on each floor, one of which was larger and extended to straddle the juncture of the two sections of the building.

The ell had a linear plan with a stair passage (near the main block) and two rooms (a large one next to the stair passage, a small one at the southeast end of the ell) on each floor. The exception to this general plan was on the second floor. There the space on the northeast side of the house, from the front of the main block (northwest side) to the ell stair passage, was divided into three rooms (smaller than on the other floors) instead of the usual two. The stair-passage space on the first floor of the ell was divided in two, with a small entry on the northeast side of the ell (at the foot of the stairs) separated by a partition from a small room on the southwest side.

The plan of the cellar featured one large room on the southwest side of the main block, a center passage with a separate room beneath the tower, one large room on the

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northeast side of the main block extending under part of the ell (but with a separate furnace room at the northwest end of this large space), and two more rooms beneath the ell (one a small space at the southeast end of the ell).

The house was built with a porch extending across the facade of the main block, with balconies above, off the second- and third-floor tower rooms. The doorway on the northeast side of the ell also had a small porch with a balcony above. There may also have been a rear porch in some configuration.

5. Additions and alterations: At some time between 1872 and 1897 James Gambrill built an L-shaped two-story porch structure onto the rear of the house (on the southeast side of the main block and the southwest of the ell). This porch (now replaced) was entirely enclosed, with a wood-frame outer wall, except for one small space along the first floor of the ell. On the second-floor level the porch was taken up by a solarium, with glass walls and ceilings of many panes (above railing level), but for a bathroom adjoining the south corner of the main block. Many of the glass panes had hinges to enable opening. On the first-floor level of the porch there were a room adjoining the main block, a room at the juncture of main block and ell, an open space along the ell, and two toilet rooms adjoining the southeast end of the ell. The fact that a jib window was originally located in the brick wall at the southeast end of the first-floor southwest room of the main block suggests that this porch structure was an addition. That the enclosed two-story porch was an addition is further suggested by physical evidence that the doorway leading from the stairway landing, between the first and second floors of the main block, to the rear porch is an alteration.

It is not known whether Alexander Magruder made any changes to the house. Ai and Fannie Smith made few alterations. They did convert the room in the enclosed rear porch, which adjoined the first-floor southwest room of the main block, into an additional kitchen. In ca. 1935-1936 they introduced electricity to the house, though in just a few of the rooms.

The Gambrill House received its major alterations in 1967. In that year Earl and Joan Vivino undertook an extensive reshaping and refitting of the house's interior in preparation for its use as a private medical clinic

with accommodations for patients. (1967 is the date found stamped in every toilet tank in the house.) The Vivinos' renovations destroyed or obscured almost all evidence of the earlier mechanical systems which had been introduced in the course of the preceding century. The 1967 alterations included installation of new plumbing, heating and electrical systems, installation of an intercom, insulation of the house's exterior walls (which entailed furring them out), laying of wall-to-wall carpet in several rooms, and creation of several new closets and two floor-to-ceiling sets of built-in bookcases. The existing bathrooms and kitchen were renovated, and new ones (including two kitchenettes) created. The large room taking up one side of the main block on the third floor was divided in two with a modern partition. On the second floor the "tower room" in the main block was parted in two, and another partition was introduced in an adjoining room, in order to create an arrangement of bedroom-with-walk-in-closet-and-bath. The enclosed two-story rear porch was replaced with an open one. Two jib windows were removed, one from the second-floor tower room and one from the southeast wall of the southwest room of the main block's first floor. The wallpaper which covered the walls in most of the first and second floors, thought to have been original, was also removed, as well as the large chandeliers which had hung in the three first-floor rooms of the main block.

B. Historical Context:

1. The house and its occupants:

The history of the Gambrill House is intertwined with that of Araby Mill, the gristmill which the house was built to overlook. John McPherson, a wealthy local landowner, built a complex of mills he named the Araby Mills in 1830. McPherson's own residence was the house called Araby, a Georgian mansion built ca. 1780 and located about three-quarters of a mile to the southwest. The Araby gristmill was built to serve as a "merchant mill," i.e. a mill which purchased the farmer's wheat outright, as opposed to a "custom mill," one which ground grain as a job for which service the mill was paid by the farmer. The merchant mill was in general the more profitable (if speculative) of the two sorts of grain-milling business. While the custom mill ground a variety of grains, the merchant mill specialized in the grinding of wheat for flour to be sold on a national or

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international market, and generally dealt with a higher volume of grain than did the custom mill.

McPherson's fortunes took a pronounced downturn in the mid-1840s, and he was forced to sell most of his real estate, including his mansion and his mills. Elias Crutchley, an investor from the town of Frederick, bought the latter, with the sixty-six-acre mill seat, in 1844.

An insurance survey taken that year at Crutchley's behest, preserved in the collection of the Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, showed that the Araby gristmill was a three-story merchant flour mill built of stone, forty-five feet long by forty feet wide, and fitted with two pairs of burr (flour-milling) stones and a single water wheel. (The lower two stories of the exterior walls of the flour mill building were still standing in 1991, the structure housing a temporary National Park visitor center and staff apartment. Nothing else survived at that time from the 1844 mills.) The complex also included a sawmill on a stone foundation, fifty feet by fifteen feet, and a "chopping and plaster mill," a two-story stone building, fifty feet by twenty feet, housing water-powered machines for making animal feed and for grinding gypsum into fertilizer. The two latter buildings were attached and were served by a single water wheel. The gearing throughout the mill complex was made of wood. Next to the mills stood the dwelling for the miller, a one-and-a-half-story stone house, thirty-four feet by twenty feet, with an attached one-story stone kitchen, nineteen-and-a-half feet by sixteen feet. In John McPherson's time the Araby miller had probably generally been an individual who ran the mills on a basis of an agreement to share the proceeds with the owner. The roofs of all the buildings in the complex were covered with oak shingles save that of the merchant mill, which was roofed with cypress shingles.

Crutchley's time as owner of the Araby Mills was not of long duration; he died in 1847 and the property was sold to George W. Delaplane, a miller then resident in New Market Election District. Delaplane moved to Araby Mills sometime ca. 1850-1852. In 1855, however, he sold the complex to his former assistant, James H. Gambrill, who would build the Second Empire-style mansion.

Gambrill, born 1830, was a native of Howard County. His father Richard Gambrill was a member of an extended family which comprised a virtual "milling dynasty" in

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Baltimore and vicinity. Young James Gambrill had been with George Delaplane since 1849. Gambrill appeared on the census of 1850 as a member of Delaplane's New Market household, his occupation given as "miller."

The young miller was a bachelor until July 26, 1860, when he wed Antoinette Staley, born in 1838, a daughter in a wealthy Frederick family. The 1860 census, taken early in the year, showed him the lone member of his household, without servants or other live-in employees.

Gambrill made the miller's house built by John McPherson his residence from 1855 until ca. 1872. An advertisement for the property from 1897 referred to it as being part stone, part frame in construction, whereas the insurance survey of 1844 described a stone house. It is possible that Gambrill added the frame section in the 1860s to accommodate his bride or his growing family.

It was in March 1864 (four months before the Battle of Monocacy) that James H. Gambrill purchased from Calvin Page, a Frederick businessman, a one hundred and thirteen-acre tract of higher ground adjoining the mill property. Presumably the eventual building of a finer residence, with a view surveying his prosperous industrial concern, ranked high among his reasons for buying this land. Gambrill subsequently sold a large part of the 1864 addition, resulting in a property totalling one hundred and forty-one acres.

The Gambrills moved to Baltimore and lived in that city for "a year . . . at the close of the Civil War," according to Williams and McKinsey's standard 1910 history of Frederick County. James and Antoinette's fourth child, James Jr., was born in Baltimore in March 1866. More information about this sojourn, its motives and its duration, might shed some light on the building of the mansion. It is possible that Gambrill was studying the most modern milling techniques at one or more of his relatives' businesses. At any rate, the Gambrills returned to Araby Mills and lived there for six years or so before moving into their completed mansion.

By 1870 the wealthy miller and his wife had adequate motive for constructing a larger dwelling than the house described in the 1844 insurance survey. The census of 1870 reported the Gambrills' household as consisting of James, Antoinette, six children aged from six months to eight years, two white male mill employees in their

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twenties, a black husband and wife aged about thirty, one a "farm laborer," the other a "domestic servant," and another black female domestic, aged fifteen. An additional child would be born to the Gambrills around the time they moved into the mansion. The county assessment of 1876 reported three modestly valued dwellings on the property (apart from the mansion), making it difficult to discern just what the Gambrills' domestic arrangements of 1870 were. These included the house by the mill, one by the B & O track, and one on the Georgetown Pike.

The brick house the Gambrills built ca. 1872 more than met their need for space. It was palatial by local standards. This richly decorated, generous-dimensioned Empire-style mansion, with a center-passage, double-pile main block and an ell long enough to hold three rooms and a back stair passage, held three full stories of rooms in both sections. One of the largest single-family residences ever built in Frederick County, the Gambrill House is also one of its very few full-scale Empire-style houses.

Despite its size, the Gambrills' new home can be seen as but a particularly grand example of a rebuilding movement among well-established inhabitants that seems to have been taking place in its neighborhood and probably throughout the county during the decade or so following the war. At Araby, John McPherson's old house, the owner C. K. Thomas doubled the insurance coverage on the mansion, suggesting improvements in addition to the repairs necessitated by the battle damage of July 9, 1864. Two properties to the west of Gambrill's, substantial farmer John T. Worthington installed a more elaborate front doorway for his farmhouse ca. 1870. Just across the Monocacy River beyond Worthington's, Arcadia mansion's new owner Dr. David F. McKinney enlarged and made Second Empire-style embellishments around this time, including a cupola, on that large Federal Georgian mansion (built circa 1800).

The Gambrill House, with its long and commodious ell, exemplified the then ongoing trend in rural Mid-Atlantic domestic architecture toward the housing of service functions in a wing extending off the main house, though on a particularly grand scale. The main block of the Gambrill mansion contained numerous architectural manifestations of well-off Victorians' emphasis on family domesticity and gracious entertaining. (Much of the

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following discussion of the house and grounds' appearance during the Gambrills' ownership is based on the recollections of descendants of Al and Fannie Smith, who purchased the mansion in 1922. Smith family members believe, and the evidence suggests, that intervening owners had made few alterations.) The first floor was taken up with an elegant double parlor, an intimate library, and a spacious dining room. There were fireplace mantels and hearths of imported Italian marble, elaborate plaster ceiling medallions and large crystal chandeliers in all three rooms, and the parlor and library both had bay windows with window seats. A large front porch provided a place to "take the air." On the third floor was space designed for large-scale entertaining. A ballroom took up the southwest side of the main block. Across the hall from the ballroom, in the east room of the main block, was a built-in stage, which probably served as a platform for dance-band musicians, and which may also have been employed by the Gambrill children for amateur theatricals. A room in the cellar beneath the tower housed a wine cellar. During this period the fireplace was reasserting itself over the stove among well-off Americans, to a degree, due to Victorian domestic theorists' idea that the hearth was more conducive to harmonious family gathering. The Gambrill House possessed seven fireplaces, in addition to a cooking range and a furnace.

The house was richly finished and furnished almost throughout. According to members of the Smith family, all of the first-floor and second-floor rooms were papered with elegant wallpaper except for those in the first floor of the ell (the kitchen and associated spaces). The rooms in the third floor of the main block were painted, those in the third floor of the ell merely plastered. The latter area was evidently a servants' quarters. The doors throughout the main block were coated with rich French polish, and the grand center staircase had a dark mahogany-like finish. An impressive array of furniture evidently filled the house. The county tax assessment of 1876 valued the Gambrills' furniture at \$1,200. Neighbor John T. Worthington's relatively well-furnished farmhouse held just \$350 worth of furniture. The \$1,200 figure was a large amount compared to Gambrill's assessments for other assets: \$5,000 for the house, \$6,475 for the mill (with house and stable), \$484 for livestock, \$1,000 for the barn (when it was built the following year).

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Sometime after the original construction of the house in ca. 1872 and before his departure in 1897, James Gambrill made an addition to the house which further enhanced its gracious and livable character. This was a two-story enclosed porch, featuring a large solarium and an additional bath on the second floor, and a "summer dining room," an additional room, some open porch space and two toilet rooms on the first floor. It is likely that this was an enlargement and enclosure of an existing porch, as the toilet rooms (and the indoor plumbing system) were probably original features. The added bath put the finishing touch to the elder Gambrills' master-bedroom suite, which also consisted of the master bedroom (the west room on the second floor of the main block) and a dressing room (the south room). The latter two rooms were divided by a partition with a pair of large pocket doors. Perhaps this alteration was made after the last of the Gambrill's ten children was born (1877). The dressing room might have been employed earlier as a nursery.

Nearer the house were the servants' cottage and a smokehouse. The presence of rooms unfinished but for plaster on the third floor of the mansion's ell suggests that there were two servants' quarter areas. This would have enabled a married couple of servants to live separately, or there may have been a policy of segregation according to sex or race. The servants' cottage also contained a beehive oven, an additional baking facility for the mansion.

James and Antoinette Gambrill enjoyed entertaining, and created an ideal setting. A Frederick newspaper piece in the collection of Mrs. Virginia Hendrickson, probably from ca. 1890, describes a gala summer concert evening at the Gambrill mansion:

AT BEAUTIFUL EDGEWOOD

**Another Evening with the Estey
Philharmonic Orchestra**

The large picnic wagon of Mr. H. C. Zacharias and its four prancing steeds were again called into requisition last night to convey the members of the Estey Philharmonic Orchestra to "Edgewood," the delightful country home of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gambrill, beautifully located on a hill directly overlooking the

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many-curved Monocacy, its well-arranged lawn sweeping toward the shore of that romantic stream. . . . As the team drew up at the door of the beautiful home at Edgewood the cheers of the ladies assembled on the verandah greeted the musicians. . . . The house was brightly illuminated, its wide doors were thrown hospitably open, and across the velvet green carpet of the lawn the beams of the moon were mellowly cast. Amid the trees hung Chinese lanterns, and here and there, in the summer houses and elsewhere, were refreshment tables and groups of chairs where the guests might gather to hear the music. The orchestra were conveniently positioned on the northwest wing of the front verandah. . . .

The Gambrill family continued to increase in size following James and Antoinette's taking up residence in the mansion, attaining that of nine children (five sons and four daughters) in 1874. (A fifth daughter was born in 1877 but did not live.) The Gambrills' corps of domestic helpers remained almost surprisingly small, considering the size of the family and that of the house. The 1880 census reported a white female servant, aged thirty-three, a black female servant, nineteen, and a black male laborer, fifteen.

Having built his mansion, James H. Gambrill continued his career as a successful miller and businessman. When he died in 1932, the day after his 102nd birthday, Gambrill's obituary referred to him as a "pioneer miller." Regional historian J. Thomas Scharf described Gambrill in 1882 as "a characteristic American merchant, active, thorough, and full of energy and vim." In 1878 Gambrill took over the large steam-powered flour mill which had been built next to the rail depot in the town of Frederick by William Kemp six years earlier. In 1882 Gambrill installed roller milling machinery in the town mill, thus becoming an early participant in the "roller revolution" which would soon transform the American milling industry.

The Araby flour mill which the mansion had been built to overlook was not converted to rollers. As of 1880 it endured as a major concern, though the saw, chop and plaster mills had by then been discontinued, and their buildings likely disassembled. A detailed 1897 advertisement for the mill property did not mention them.

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The manufacturing census taken in 1880 reported that three mill hands at Araby operated three pairs of stones, powered by an overshot water wheel, to produce fifteen thousand barrels of flour per annum. At Gambrill's steam-engine-driven (but then still pre-roller) mill in town six hands operated five pairs of stones to make twenty thousand barrels of flour each year. Gambrill employed another two workers at Araby working fulltime to make barrels in which to ship his flour. Araby Mill operated until 1897. A deed of that year conveying the Gambrill homestead referred to the place as a "valuable mill property," and an inventory of goods at the mill listed 115 barrels filled with flour, 800 sacks of flour, 231 new barrels, and 120,000 barrel staves.

The deed was made by James H. Gambrill to his daughter Minnie and her husband Carroll Mercer. A failure in business forced Gambrill, then sixty-seven, to surrender title to his mansion and Araby Mill as well as to the town mill. Gambrill's failure may have been a result of the ever fiercer competition which characterized the American flour-milling industry in the aftermath of the 1880s roller innovation. In general the millers of the Mid-Atlantic could not hold their own against the great milling concerns of the Upper Midwest. After 1894 James Gambrill may have found the economic struggle particularly hard to bear, since in that year his wife Antoinette passed away. The mill closed for good. No subsequent owner of the Araby Mill property was a miller, and neither a 1901 deed nor the 1910 assessment on the property mention the mill.

In 1897 James H. Gambrill's country estate, with its adjoining mansion and flourmill properties, epitomized the way of life of the Mid-Atlantic region's leading millers. The mansion, progressive architectural embodiment of refinement and good living, surveyed the mill where for decades Gambrill's aggressive energy, technical mastery and business sense had produced his wealth. The advertisement for the property, a copy of which is included among equity case papers, ran:

FIRST.--The "Edgewood" property--the dwelling of the said James H. Gambrill, to which there is about eighty acres of good quality of land. . . . The improvements on this property consist of
"THE MANSION,"
being a large two-story brick dwelling,

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mansard roof, 42x90 feet, containing seventeen rooms, vestibules and halls, ten feet wide, parlor 16x40 feet; large bay windows, butler's pantry, china closets, range, hot and cold water, summer dining room, all modern conveniences, with cellars under the entire building, finished and in compartments. There is a ball room, 17x40 feet, and porches in front and rear, 10 feet wide, water of the finest quality.

There is also on these premises a good barn, with stable room for eight horses and six cows, harness room complete, carriage rooms for six carriages, cottage for attendant conveniently located. This property is located about one-fourth of a mile from Frederick Junction on the main line of the B. & O. R. R., is three miles south of Frederick, immediately on the Frederick & Washington Turnpike, a fine macadamized road, within two hours ride from Baltimore and Washington by rail. The Mansion House, which is one of the most beautiful and elegant residences in Maryland, occupies an elevated position on the east side of the Monocacy River, commanding a magnificent view of the historic field of the Battle of the Monocacy, and the fertile and picturesque Frederick Valley. There is also on this place a fine orchard of about 500 peach trees, in full bearing, also other fruit. The dwelling is supplied with pure spring water, and there is an ice house on the place well supplied with ice.

SECONDLY.--All that mill property, known as the "Araby Mills," containing about sixty acres of land. . . . This property is improved by a three-story grist mill built of stone, 40x40 [sic] feet, has a capacity of from fifty to seventy-five barrels of flour per day, buhr system, excellent water power, dam in good condition. There is on this property a private switch and brick warehouse along the main stem of the B. & O. R. R. Also a stone and weatherboarded dwelling house two stories high, in good condition. . . .

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The new owners of the Gambrill House in 1897 were James H. Gambrill's daughter Minnie and her husband Carroll Mercer. The latter gentleman was a federal government employee, and it appears that he and Minnie occupied the house only briefly if at all. They did not appear in the 1900 population census for Frederick County. The deed they made over for the mansion in 1901 referred to Carroll Mercer as being in San Francisco, Minnie in Washington.

The next owner, until 1922, was Alexander R. Magruder, a wealthy naval officer. It appears that Magruder employed the mansion as a country house during periods when he was posted stateside. The actual purchase was made for Magruder by his attorneys, as Magruder was evidently not in the country at the time. The Magruder family did not appear on the Frederick County population census of 1910. Magruder evidently furnished the house more sparsely than had the Gambrills. The county assessment for 1910 rated the house's furniture at \$500, as compared to James Gambrill's listing for \$1,200 in 1876 (when dollars presumably bought more). Magruder was also listed in the 1910 assessment for livestock worth \$700 (probably largely in horses), and vehicles and harness worth \$100, however.

What was likely a light schedule of occupancy at the mansion by Magruder may have been made even lighter by a divorce. The Frederick County assessment book for 1910-1917 has Isabel Magruder's name written next to Alexander Magruder's, but hers is crossed out. In 1922 the divorced couple sold the mansion to Frederick County farmers Ai and Fannie Smith. Isabel and her new husband Percy Kent Robottom were resident in Newport County, Rhode Island, Magruder and his new wife Elinor in Constantinople. Smith descendants think that Magruder had been appointed naval attache to the U. S. embassy in Turkey. When the Magruders sold the Gambrill House, they were in such haste that they not only sold all the house's furnishings to the Smiths, but they left a number of trunks packed with personal effects which no one ever appeared to claim. Among these was an uneaten wedding cake.

The Smith descendants believe that the house and landscape purchased by Ai and Fannie Smith in 1922 had been altered very little from what it had been in the time of James and Antoinette Gambrill. The original miller's house was gone, the ice house had been allowed

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to collapse, and the Magruders had changed the name of the estate to "Boscobel," proclaimed by a plaque mounted in the stone wall.

Ai B. Smith, who had been born about 1867, farmed the property more intensively than had even been done before. He ran the Boscobel farm in conjunction with farms he owned elsewhere in Frederick County. In 1930 Ai's son Howard Smith took over direction of the farming operation at Boscobel, running it on a basis of shares with his father.

Ai and Fannie Smith chose to change relatively little about the property, for which they bore a great affection. They did convert the mill into a house for Howard and Jeanette Smith ca. 1925, reducing the building's height by a story, introduce electricity to a limited number of rooms in the mansion ca. 1935, and build the modern cow barn (standing in 1991) ca. 1950. The real transformation of the property, from a virtual monument to Victorian architecture and landscaping to a private medical clinic, was effected by Earl and Jean Vivino, who purchased the property from the Smith heirs in 1961.

2. Farming and milling in the Monocacy Valley:

Although the primary-source research undertaken for this project made little examination of the years before ca. 1790, secondary sources indicate that the vicinity of the Worthington and Gambrill farms had been occupied by settlers, and the land first claimed, in the 1730s or 1740s. This area was part of the fertile, limestone-based formation known as the Frederick Valley or Monocacy Valley, a wide belt of bottomland which follows the course of the Monocacy River through Frederick County. The Frederick Valley was the first region of the county to be settled, and as such was occupied from one end to the other within a couple of decades. The town of Frederick was laid out just three miles to the north of the Araby area in 1745; this young town became the seat of the new county of Frederick in 1748.

The first meeting of the Frederick County Court, in 1749, reviewed and certified the ferry licenses which fell within its purview. Among the county's four ferries (three of which crossed the Monocacy) was one in the Araby area, that over the Middle Ford on Monocacy, operated by Daniel Ballenger. This ferry operated into

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the early 1800s, when it was superseded by a wooden bridge in the same location as the modern one which carries Route 355 over the river. (The point on the river at which the ferry crossed is a stone's throw downriver from the bridge, however.) The existence of this ferry in 1749 implies that the road from the town of Frederick to Georgetown (Rt. 355 in 1991) was also there at the time, and that it was one of the county's major roads, as it would continue to be until the creation of Interstate 270. The combination of excellent soil, proximity to town, access to a major transportation route, and waterpower potential (which would be fully realized by James H. Gambrill) made the Araby neighborhood a prime location.

The general mode for settlers' acquisition of land in the Frederick Valley in the 1730s and 1740s was not for the homesteaders themselves to claim the land from the provincial land office. As historian Elizabeth Kessel relates, most of the land in the valley was claimed by various well-positioned and -financed residents of the Tidewater region of Maryland, who always seemed to be in step with, or a step ahead of, the actual settlers. The latter chose good homestead sites and squatted, and were generally able to arrange relatively easy terms of purchase with the owning grandees.

Evidently, from an early date the situation in the Araby neighborhood diverged from this mode, in that the ownership of a large amount of land remained concentrated in a few wealthy hands. The overall Monocacy Battlefield area (i.e. the Gambrill, Worthington, Thomas, Daniel Baker, Edward Baker, Best, Markel and McGill properties in 1864) was divided between just two owners until 1801. This situation, and its long persistence, was probably due to the neighborhood's high desirability as a location, as discussed above. It was not until 1795 that both owners were residents, though one was from 1759 onward. No research has been done on the non-owning inhabitants who were no doubt occupying these respective tracts prior to the 1759 and 1795 purchases.

Subsequent divisions of properties increased the number of owners in the area to four in 1806, which was the number until 1841. Prior to the latter year the Araby vicinity, as it was by then called (after one of the estates), seems to have been thoroughly a neighborhood of wealthy agriculturists. In the 1835 Frederick County assessment the smallest of the four properties was

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recorded as 616 acres in extent, about four times the size of a more typical farm in the county, the largest as 1,111 acres. Two or three of the owners generally had their primary or only residence on their Araby farms at any given time.

Divisions of property which occurred between 1841 and 1860 increased the number of owners in the Araby neighborhood to eight. The area's character had become somewhat less that of an enclave of the rural elite by 1864, but only somewhat. Arcadia (McGill's) and Araby (Thomas's) remained rich agriculturists' seats, Araby Mills prospered greatly under James H. Gambrill's ownership, and two other properties (Best's and Markel's) were tenancies owned by wealthy town families. It would be more accurate to suggest that the farms of John T. Worthington and the Baker brothers, Daniel and Edward, represented an intrusion of the substantial-but-not-wealthy middling class of farmer, than it would be to posit a democratization of the neighborhood.

The destination for much of the wheat raised by John T. Worthington and his neighbors in 1864 was likely the two-story stone flour mill at Araby Mills, the business and residence of James H. Gambrill. The latter had purchased the mills from his former employer, George W. Delaplane, in 1855.

Gambrill was a member of an extended family which represented a virtual merchant-milling dynasty in Baltimore and vicinity. According to local historian Thomas Scharf (1882), the young miller (twenty-five in 1855) had set about making extensive improvements to the mills "immediately" upon acquisition. At least one of these improvements had been less than successful, perhaps a victim of the recession which began in 1857. A distillery which Gambrill built at the mills in that year in partnership with T. A. Ball and John F. Wheatley, who owned the neighboring Araby and Clifton farms, failed in 1860. Gambrill later used the brick distillery building as a warehouse.

The 1860 census of manufactures (see figures #1 & #2) had reported Gambrill's flour mill to be thriving, however. Its production of twelve thousand barrels of flour per annum put it with two mills of similar volume at the apex of the Frederick County milling industry, on a plateau considerably removed above the county's fifty-seven other flour mills. There were three additional flour mills in

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Urbana Election District in 1860, for example, of which two produced six thousand barrels of flour per annum, and the last just three thousand. Gambrill had four paid millhands in 1860. The mill property's location adjoining the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad line enhanced it as a site for business. There was a private rail siding for the mill, age unknown--rural grandee John McPherson, owner of the estate Araby, had built the mill in 1830, the year before the B & O line opened. The distillery-cum-warehouse building stood next to the siding.

Though James Gambrill (like others in the area) was pro-Confederate in personal sympathies, the heightening in the demand for flour resulting from the Union war effort was no doubt good for business at Araby Mills. The tide of war passed through the vicinity three times, in 1862, 1863 and 1864, but none of these visitations seems to have occasioned any major dislocation to local agriculture. Gambrill's flour mill evidently escaped damage in the battle, though combatants from either side may have made requisitions on the mill's inventory.

An 1844 insurance survey had reported four mills operating in the Araby Mills complex: the flour mill, a plaster mill, a chop (feed) mill, and a sawmill. The plaster and chop mills had been housed together in one two-story stone building; the sawmill was housed in a frame structure atop a stone foundation. The status of the saw, plaster and chop mills in 1864 is not known. The available information on James H. Gambrill suggests, however, that his inclination would have been toward concentration on the production of flour for a major market. The only mill referred to in the 1880 census of manufactures or in Scharf's brief 1882 description of Araby Mills is the flour mill, though both of these sources mentioned the cooperage. It appears likely that at least the saw and plaster mills had been discontinued by 1864, victims of Gambrill's extensive 1850s overhaul and redirection of the business. The chop mill was likely used to grind rye or barley into malt during the brief distillery period (1857-1860).

James H. Gambrill was a full-time miller. Farming was done on the Araby Mills property on but a minor scale, designed to feed its residents. This was so even after Gambrill added an adjoining one-hundred-and-fourteen-acre piece of hill ground (the land on which he would build his grand Second Empire-style mansion ca. 1872) to

the sixty-six acre mill seat in early 1864. The new land was far more suitable for pasture or orchard than for tillage. The first barn on the property was not built until 1877. An older stable stood by the mills. The agricultural census for 1860 did not list Gambrill, and that for 1870 noted ratings and amounts that were but fractions of those for Gambrill's farming neighbors. A mortgage on his personal estate which the young miller took out in 1858 with his father Richard Gambrill (of Baltimore) showed a paltry amount of livestock and farming tools, and reserved from Gambrill's estate a half-interest in the crop of corn then growing on the mill premises. An inventory of mill and farm goods taken in 1897, due to Gambrill's business failure, also reserved three-fifths of the corn crop and one-half of the hay crop. Apparently the miller arranged for a farmer to do his farming on a shares basis throughout the period during which he owned Araby Mills.

3. The Battle of Monocacy:

No clash of arms between opposing battle lines took place on the Gambrill Farm (Araby Mills), though the main action of the battle occurred on the neighboring Thomas Farm (Araby, adjoining the Gambrill Farm to the west). The Gambrill Farm's main function during the conflict was as a logistical center and staging area for reserves to the immediate rear of the Union lines, just before and in the opening stage of the battle. When Confederate troops advancing south from the town of Frederick were drawing toward Frederick Junction in mid-morning, several Union regiments were posted in the area immediately around the cluster of three mill buildings and miller's house. Union Army surgeons were preparing their field hospital there, and generals Wallace and Ricketts had established their command post.

At the very beginning of the shooting Confederate artillerists posted some distance up the Georgetown Pike found that they could lob shells right into the mill area. Right away a number of the clustered reserve troops were killed and wounded, and the generals ordered the regiments to secluded positions farther along the railroad and the pike. The commanders then shifted their own locations away from the mills, leaving only the field hospital. No account of the battle specifies the location of the hospital; it is unknown whether it was in the miller's house, in one of the mills or in tents in the vicinity. At battle's close retreating Union troops

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swarmed across the Gambrill Farm to the B & O Railroad tracks, some units withdrawing in better order than others. Pursuing Confederates captured about seven hundred of Wallace's men, and it is possible that much of this activity took place on the Gambrill property.

[For a complete account of the events of the Battle of Monocacy, see CLIFTON FARM (Worthington Farm, Riverside Farm), HABS NO. MD-1052].

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Gambrill House is a richly ornamented, full-scale Empire-style mansion, one of the largest single-family residences constructed in the county. Built of brick, in an L shape, the house consists of a main block constructed on a double-pile center-passage plan, with a long integral service wing extending from the rear. Both parts of the mansion are a full three stories in height. The cupola-topped tower, rising over the front entrance, and the mansard roof are emblematic of the Second Empire style. The house never received any structural addition, and its exterior is little altered from its original appearance. Though renovations done in 1967 have somewhat compromised the integrity of the mansion's interior, some notable Victorian-era decorative embellishments survive, such as the first floor's Italian marble fireplaces and plaster ceiling medallions.

2. Condition of fabric: The Gambrill House is in good to fair condition. It is basically sound, structurally, but in need of repair. The house has been vacant and some deterioration due to neglect, water damage, etc. are evident. Rotting in areas is causing damage, particularly in kitchen flooring and sections of the front porch. In addition, renovations ca. 1967 including interior decorating--paint, wall paper, carpeting--which is not in keeping with the Victorian era in which the house was built. Changes made to adapt the house for use as a medical clinic (also ca. 1967)--such as added kitchen and bathroom facilities, intercoms and an over abundance of electric outlets and other systems--are also insensitive.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The house is built of brick and has an L-shaped plan, with a main block built in a three-story, center-passage, double-pile configuration, and a long three-story ell extending from the main block's rear. The main block features a tower rising from the center bay of its five-bay facade, which faces northwest. The tower is topped by a cupola; its structure projects forward from the main block slightly. The five-bay by two/three bay main block measures 46'-4" x 37'-9", and the two-bay by four/five-bay ell measures 18'-5" in width x 37'-5" in length (the total length of the northeast side with ell is 75'-5").

2. Foundations: The foundations are of brick.

3. Walls: The walls are of brick laid in common bond (7:1) and are painted.

4. Structural systems, framing: The house is of load-bearing masonry construction.

5. Porches, balconies, cupolas: The Gambrill House has a number of porches and balconies, and a cupola. An heavily ornamented porch runs the length of the northwest front facade, stepping out to the center where there is a stairway. It is supported by paneled chamfered posts, with oversized ornamental brackets, resting on low piers. Console brackets support the eaves of the porch. The wood floor rests on a brick foundation. A balustrade around the porch roof--with round-arched cut-outs and corner posts with finials--serves as a roof-deck balcony on the second floor. On the third floor above is a cantilevered balcony supported by over-sized ornamental brackets, with a cut-out balustrade.

There is also a porch over the carriage entry at the northeast side, where the main block meets the ell. It is supported by plain posts resting on paneled piers. The roof of the porch serves as a second floor balcony (balustrade missing).

At the southeast rear, along both the main block and the ell, are tiered porches supported by plain posts with a balustrade on the second floor only.

There is a cupola atop the tower to the front. It has a mansard roof with a round-arch dormer at each elevation.

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6. Chimneys: The house has four interior brick chimneys. Three in the main block--two on the southeast side and one on the northwest--serve a combination of fireplaces and flues for stove heat. One chimney in the ell served the cooking facilities on the first floor and a fireplace on the second floor.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The main entry, located to the center of the northwest facade, has a double round-arched doorway with an elaborate frontispiece. The doorway is flanked with pilasters which support an entablature with oversized console brackets, above which is the round-arched transom light with patterned frosted glass. There are raised-panel spandrels to either side of the transom light and a keystone to the center. The double doors each have a round-arched light with a raised panel below. The reveals are paneled in the same sequence as the doors.

The doorway above the main entry (onto the second-floor balcony) is actually a large four-light sash window, the bottom sash of which slides into a pocket above for use as a doorway. The third floor doorway onto the balcony consists of a round-arched two-over-two-light sash window with paneled jib doors.

The carriage entry at the northeast has a full frontispiece with three-light side lights, a transom and corner lights. The doorway is flanked by paneled pilasters with large brackets supporting the entablature which is lined with dentil-like brackets. The door has four raised panels with cyma-reversa moldings.

There is a doorway onto the roof deck above the carriage entry, also with a full frontispiece. It is similar to that on the first floor but with a pointed-arch lintel.

There are a number of doorways to the rear of both the main block and the ell, all with transom lights and beveled lintels (see drawings for location). Two narrow doorways at the southwest side of the ell have been bricked in.

b. Windows and shutters: The typical window of the main block is a two-over-two-light, double-hung sash. The windows on the first floor of the northwest front are floor to ceiling, two-over-four-light, double-hung sash. They have stone sills and ornamental, pointed-arch wooden lintels with a symmetrical scroll design. The third floor windows--which appear to be round-arched sash windows--have a fixed top sash with a casement window below. The main block is flanked by four-sided bay windows on the first floor, with one-over-one-light sash windows.

The ell has six-over-six-light, double-hung sash windows, with wood sills and flat beveled-edge wood lintels.

There are louvered shutters with drop pendant shutter stays in both the main block and the ell.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: Both the main block and ell have dormered, mansard roofs. The sides of the mansard are covered with slate shingles with a band of scalloped-pattern shingles through the center. The tops of the roofs are covered with raised-seam metal (with a built-in system of gutters).

b. Cornice, eaves: The roof overhangs considerably, supported by pairs of oversized ornamental brackets against the background of a cut-out cornice in a crenelated-like pattern.

c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: The mansard roof is lined with round-arch dormers on all sides. At the top of each rounded arch is a fleur-de-lis finial. A tower, topped with a cupola, rises up three stories from the center of the northwest front.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

a. Basement: There is a full basement divided into a series of rooms connected by arched doorways. It is unfinished but has a concrete floor.

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b. First floor: The first floor of the main block has a center stairhall (with an entry vestibule) flanked by a large parlor to the southwest and a library and dining room to the northeast. The rear kitchen ell is entered through the dining room by two doorways, one via the carriage entry and back stairhall, and the other via a bath and doorway to the basement. There is a utility room behind the kitchen.

c. Second floor: The second floor follows the same pattern as the first with a bedroom and adjoining room over the parlor on one side of the stairhall, and two bedrooms on the other. Above the first floor vestibule are two bathrooms, one is entered from the stairhall and the other from the master bedroom. The east bedroom of the main block connects to a bedroom in the wing. Through this room is the back stairhall and a doorway onto the roof deck over the carriage entry. Beyond this is another bedroom and bath.

d. Third floor: On the southwest side of the stairhall are two bedrooms (separated by a partition wall with closets--a later addition). Over the entry to the front is a bath. On the northeast side of the hall is a bedroom which adjoins a larger room to the rear which spans the main block and the ell, and includes the back stair. To the rear of this room is another bedroom and a bath.

2. Stairways: The main stairway is an elegant, wide, low-rise stair which winds its way to the third floor. It is an open well, open string stair with two runs per floor. Each run rises to a landing along the back wall (lit by a doorway onto the porch between the first and second floors, and a window between the second and third). There is a heavy, oak newel post with acanthus leaf ornamentation and turned balusters, two per step. There are scroll brackets in the step ends.

There is a back stairway which runs from the first to the third floor in the ell. It is partially enclosed, two runs per floor, with a beaded board balustrade. The landings are lit by windows.

Two plain, single run stairways (without risers) access the basement. They are located under the both the main

and back stairways.

3. Flooring: There is medium width, varnished hardwood flooring in most rooms. Wall-to-wall carpeting has been added to the stairhall on all levels, and linoleum in the kitchen and some of the rooms in the wings. The floors of the bathroom have modern ceramic tile.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls and ceilings are plaster throughout. The first floor walls have an added layer of wallboard for the purpose of insulation. There is picture molding in the first floor of the main block. There are ceiling medallions in the stairhall, parlor and library of the first floor. All have a floral pattern; in the parlor and library they are round with concentric rings, and the one in the hall is oval.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The doorways in the main block have a wide architrave surround (with an astragal along the inner edge) which varies slightly from floor to floor. On the first floor the architrave is oversized. It is scaled-down on the second and third floors, although on the third floor it appears on the stairhall side of the doorway only, with a plain surround on the other side. The doorways in the ell also have plain surrounds with an astragal along the inner edge. The doorways off the stairhall all have transom lights (as do the exterior doorways); elsewhere, there are wood panels above the doorways. There is a wide doorway with a pair of four-panel pocket doors which adjoin the two second floor southwest rooms. A wide, pointed-arch doorway separates the entry vestibule from the stairhall on the first floor.

The doors are four-panel with a cyma-reversa panel molding (only on the hall side on the third floor). The doors have a dark stain on the first floor of the main block and are painted elsewhere.

b. Windows: The first-floor windows of the main block have an architrave surround like that found on the doorways (but with a slightly wider backband). The windows along the front of the house are floor to ceiling; elsewhere, the windows have wood panels below them. The reveals are

splayed slightly. There is a bay window in the parlor and in the library with three-part, folding wood shutters. There is a built-in window seat in the parlor bay. The surrounds in the ell are plain.

The second floor windows are like those on the first floor, but without the panels below. A large window to the center of the northwest front (currently in the master bath) serves as a doorway with the lower sash opening up into a pocket above. This window also has three-part folding shutters.

The third floor windows have a plain, round-arched surround. A large, round-arched window to the center of the front facade (currently in a bathroom) has jib doors and three-part folding shutters.

6. Decorative features and trim: There are three ornamental marble mantels in the first floor of the main block, located in the parlor, library and dining rooms. The parlor mantel, the most elaborate, is white marble with an arched opening and spandrels with medallions. There is a keystone ornamented with a pair of carved pears. The library mantel is also of white marble with an arched opening, spandrels and a console keystone. The mantel in the dining room is black marble (painted white) with an arched opening and spandrels (keystone missing). There are three decorative wood mantels in the second floor bedrooms of the main block. The mantel in the master bedroom is flanked with paneled pilasters and has a pointed arched opening with spandrels. The other two are similar. There are no fireplaces on the third floor--only stove flues. There is, however, a mantel shelf in the north bedroom.

There is a built-in cupboard in the dining room, to the side of the fireplace. It has a tall cabinet above with locking, double, two-panel doors. The shelves have grooves for plate display. Below is a double, paneled-door cabinet. There are built-in chimney closets in the rear bedroom in the ell on the second floor, and in the north bedroom on the third floor.

There are built-in shelves in the library and in the center bedroom in the ell on the second floor--none of which are original.

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7. Hardware: The doors in the main block have white porcelain knobs. In the ell the door knobs are variegated brown porcelain with box locks, or black metal knobs and door plates. The butt hinges are unornamented.

8. Mechanical equipment:

a. Heating: The Gambrill House, when built, was as progressive as it was grand. A coal-burning furnace enclosed in a small cellar room heated air which was spread through the first floor of the main block via ducts.

b. Lighting: In the Gambrills' day, a machine, located in the southwest room of the cellar of the main block, refined gas which lit wall-mounted gas lamps throughout the house.

c. Plumbing: When the house was first built, toilets, located on the first and second floors at the southeast end of the ell, were enabled to work by pipes which ran from a hydraulic ram positioned at a spring several hundred yards to the north of the house, to a cistern atop the ridge behind the house, several hundred yards to the southeast, and then downhill to the house. The downward race of the water created enough power to propel the fluid to a ceiling tank on the second floor. Another length of pipe, almost half a mile long, took the sewage northeast to empty into Bush Creek. Behind the range's firebox, in an alcove, was a five-hundred-gallon hot-water tank. This facility provided hot water for the sink in the service room at the southeast end of the ell's first floor (the kitchen itself had no sink), and for the bath located directly above. The house also featured an elaborate system of roof gutters, which funnelled all rain water into a cistern positioned a few feet from the southeast end of the ell.

d. Cooking: The original kitchen boasted a twelve-burner gas range with a large oven and several small warming ovens. The kitchen has since been modernized and is currently in a deteriorated state.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house sits atop a knoll, facing northwest. Currently, little of the original landscaping and none of the historic outbuildings remain to evoke the wealthy miller's estate of a century earlier.

2. Historic landscape design: It appears that, as of 1991, little in the way of landscape features survives from 1864 at the Gambrill Farm. The large Second Empire-style mansion was not built until circa 1872. Only the gristmill structure remains (reduced a story in height) from the mill complex of house and three mills. The gristmill's tailrace ditch remains, as does a short trace of that for the headrace. A large, shallow depression a short distance to the east of the gristmill, perhaps an acre in expanse, may be the remnant of a millpond. Several features abutting the property are in the same locations as in 1864. These include the B & O track (by which Union troops arrived in Araby via train before the battle, and departed on foot afterwards), the public road along the south boundary, and the highway and railroad bridges over the Monocacy. The present bridge structures are modern, of course, on the 1864 foundations, and the designations of the roads have changed. At the time of the battle, the Georgetown Pike took the turn to run as what is now called Araby Church Road.

Despite the lack of extant features of the historic landscape, much about the original landscaping and layout can be deduced from the existing records. The Gambrills extended the care with which the house's spaces for polite living and those for work were laid out, as separate but convenient to each other, to the landscape and outbuildings surrounding the mansion. The mansion property purchased in 1864, which the Gambrills named "Edgewood," was divided from the original Araby Mills tract by a stone wall. The lane leading from the Georgetown Pike into the mill area turned and extended to the mansion, through a gate in the wall. This drive was lined with alternating Norway spruce and mahogany trees for its entire length, including the stretch through the mill tract.

The "Edgewood" property was divided into a number of discrete spaces, including the immediate area of the mansion, the agricultural service area, a large vegetable garden, pasture for the Gambrills' horses and cows, and

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an orchard. Trees and other vegetation were used to create screens between the mansion vicinity and the other areas. To the northwest of the mansion, between its front and the stone boundary wall, lay a large fan-shaped lawn, with the narrow end of the fan toward the mansion. The gravel drive curved from the gate, north of the house, uphill through this lawn well over to the northwest and then swung around to the front door, where there was a short stretch of brick instead of gravel. The drive continued to make a large circle on the northeast side of the house, serving the barn as well as the mansion's kitchen. The circle was studded with numerous Japanese magnolia, horse chestnut and maple trees, and in its center was a large, thick clump of pampas grass. Immediate to the circular service drive on its southeast side were several lilac bushes which completed the screen between the house and the agricultural service area, which was on the opposite side of the circular drive from the house.

Behind the mansion, on its south, were a frame servants' cottage and a frame smokehouse. A row of trees separated this service area from the small lawn on the southwest side of the house and the small brick patio which adjoined the rear porch. Along the far side of the southwest lawn ran a row of Norway spruce trees, and beyond these was the house's extensive vegetable garden. The large space between the vegetable garden and front lawn on one side, and the Georgetown Pike (one of the property's boundaries) on the other, was taken up by pasture for the Gambrills' livestock. This area was kept free of trees, and afforded a fine view of the countryside from the mansion. Gambrill's large peach orchard, his one venture in market agriculture, covered the gently rising slope of the ridge which lay behind the house, to the east and southeast.

Trees and flowering bushes were spotted all about the mansion's lawn. Hydrangea bushes were especially numerous. Hydrangeas were planted in front of the mansion's front porch, clematis plants ran on trellises up the sides of the porch, and hosta bushes were planted along the northeast and southwest sides of the house's main block. Rose bushes could be found in many places along the drive and along fences.

3. Outbuildings: In 1991 little of the landscaping and none of the outbuildings remained to evoke the wealthy miller's estate of a century earlier. Historic records,

however, suggest the layout of the property during the Gambrill's ownership of the property. Due to the careful planning of the Edgewood (as the Gambrills referred to it) landscape, guests strolling the lawn before the mansion could ignore the many outbuildings where work was done which enabled the Gambrills' gracious way of life. In the agricultural service area were located a bank barn (built 1877 according to the county assessment), an ice house, poultry houses and a hay barrack, a large structure similar to a drive-through corn crib designed for the storage of hay. The barn was largely devoted to horses and vehicles, with stabling for livestock below, and a tack room, hay lofts, and a large central open space for keeping vehicles above. A 1897 inventory of James Gambrill's mill and farm goods reported two carriages, a buggy, a "broad tread wagon," a "covered flour wagon" and an additional covered wagon, as well as five horses and three cows.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Early Views:

Collection of David Reed, Washington, D. C.

- * Photograph of Worthington Farm House, probably early 20th century
- * Photograph of Worthington Farmstead, ca. 1930
- * Drawing of Worthington Farmstead, ca. 1930

B. Interviews:

Virginia Hendrickson, August 22, 1991, 137 S. Prospect St., Hagerstown, Md. 21740

Austin Renn, August 22, 1991, "Saleauda," Rt. 1, Box 20, Adamstown, Md. 21710

David Reed, August 29, 1991, 4845 Linnean St., Washington NW, D. C. 20008

Smith family members, September 3, 1991, conducted at the Gambrill House

- * Jeanette Smith, c/o Sally Thomas
- * Ai B. Smith II, 5114 Mussetter Rd., Ijamsville,

Maryland 21754
* Sally Thomas, 4825 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick,
Maryland 21701

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Historian
Historic American Buildings Survey
Summer 1991

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was sponsored by the National Capital Region (NCR) of the National Park Service, Robert Stanton, Director, under the direction of Rebecca Stevens, Regional Historical Architect, Professional Services Division, NCR; and Richard Rambur, Superintendent of Antietam and Monocacy National Battlefields. The documentation was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) Robert J. Kapsch, Chief, under the direction of Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HABS; with assistance by HABS architect Joseph D. Balachowski and HABS historian Catherine C. Lavoie. The project was completed during the summer of 1991 at the HABS field office in the Gambrill House, Monocacy National Battlefield, Urbana, Maryland, by project supervisor Michael E. Brannan, architect, with architecture technicians David Eric Naill (Virginia Polytechnic Institute), John Kenneth Pursley (Auburn University) and Elena Lazukova (Moscow Institute of Restoration of Monuments of History and Culture, US-ICOMOS, USSR). The historical research and production of the report was undertaken by project historian Philip Edmund Pendleton (University of Delaware); only the architectural information, Part II, section B & C.1-7 were written by HABS historian Catherine C. Lavoie. The large-format photography was produced by Jack E. Boucher, HABS photographer.

Figure #1

U. S. Censuses of Agriculture and Manufactures, 1860

| | <u>T. A. Ball (aq)</u> | <u>D. Baker (aq)</u> | <u>J. Gambrill (ma)</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Improved acres | 500 | 200 | Capital \$18,000 |
| Unimp. acres | 60 | 25 | Power water |
| Real est value of farm | \$30,000 | \$10,000 | # empl. 4 men |
| Implements val. | \$300 | \$60 | Wages \$70 per mo. |
| Horses | 10 | 3 | Matl. 50,000 bu wht |
| Milk cows | 6 | 4 | Value \$60,000 |
| Other cattle | 15 | 3 | Prod. 12,000 bbls |
| Swine | 40 | 20 | Value \$65,000 |
| Livestock val | \$1,000 | \$500 | |
| Winter wheat (bu.) | 3,500 | 1,000 | |
| Indian corn (bu.) | 500 | 1,000 | |
| Oats (bu.) | 500 | zero | |
| Irish potatoes (bu.) | 20 | 20 | |
| Orchard prod val | \$5 | \$30 | |
| Butter (lbs.) | 150 | 60 | |
| Hay (tons) | 8 | 12 | |
| Value of animals slaughtered | \$150 | \$60 | |

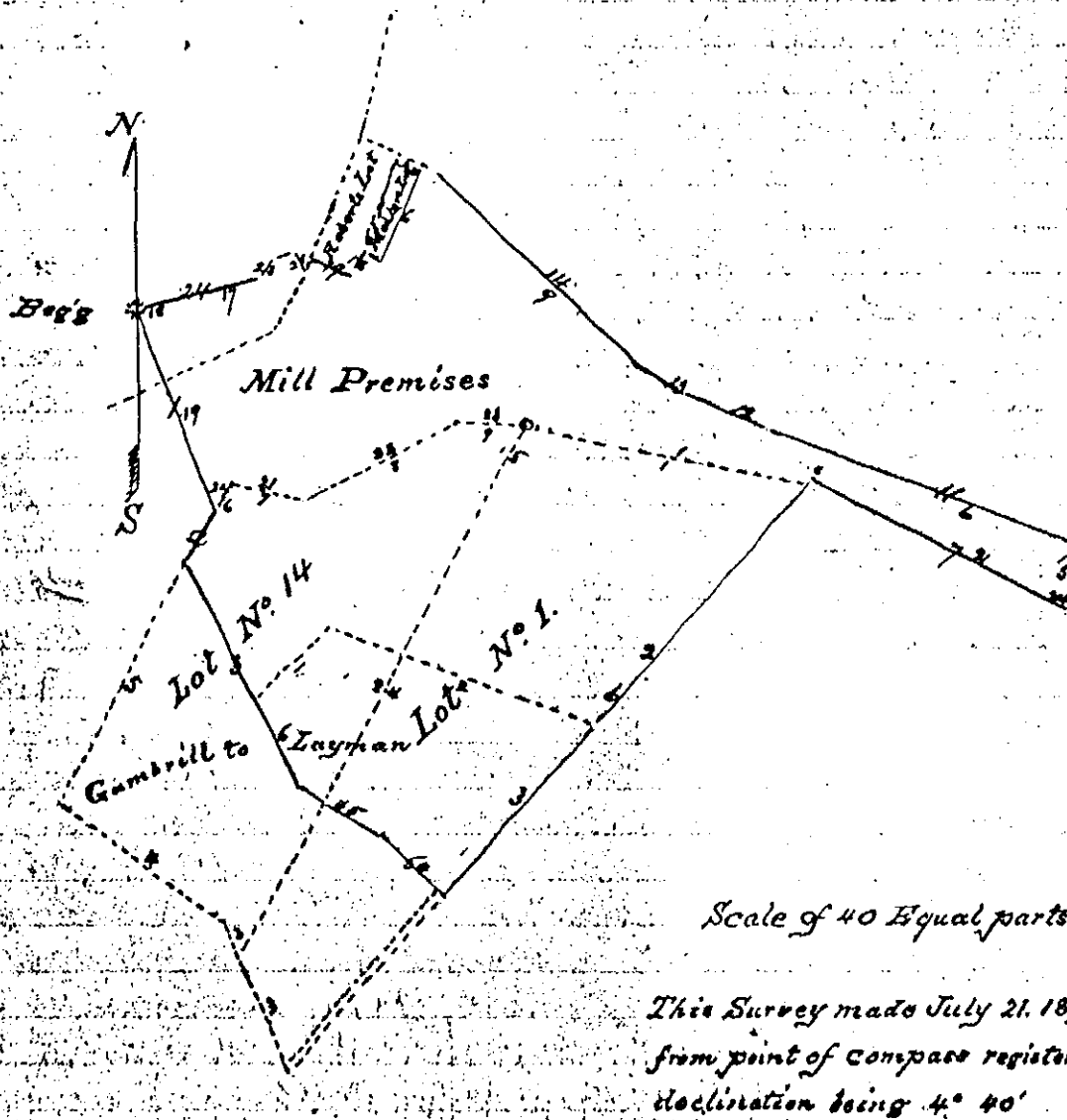
Figure #2

U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1870

| | <u>J. Worthington</u> | <u>J. Gambrill</u> | <u>C. K. Thomas</u> | <u>D. Baker</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Improved acres | 276 | 60 | 300 | 200 |
| Wooded acres | 25 | 60 | zero | 25 |
| Real est value of farm | \$20,600 | \$6,000 | \$24,000 | \$15,750 |
| Implements val. | \$450 | \$100 | \$1,000 | \$407 |
| Wages per annum | \$700 | \$300 | \$1,500 | \$300 |
| Horses | 6 | 4 | 13 | 8 |
| Mules and asses | zero | zero | 2 | zero |
| Milk cows | 7 | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| Oxen | 2 | zero | 2 | zero |
| Other cattle | 17 | zero | 18 | 4 |
| Sheep | zero | zero | 9 | zero |
| Swine | 17 | 25 | 48 | 40 |
| Livestock value | \$1,465 | \$1,000 | \$3,385 | \$1,162 |
| Winter wheat (bu.) | 1,000 | 240 | 2,300 | 1,100 |
| Rye (bu.) | zero | zero | 100 | 25 |
| Indian corn (bu.) | 1,500 | 300 | 2,500 | 2,000 |
| Oats (bu.) | 60 | zero | 100 | 20 |
| Irish potatoes (bu.) | 50 | 150 | 200 | 100 |
| Butter (lbs.) | 250 | 240 | 500 | 240 |
| Hay (tons) | 20 | 12 | 25 | 15 |
| Value of animals slaughtered | \$552 | \$280 | \$720 | \$320 |
| Total value of farm products | \$3,494 | \$1,025 | \$6,220 | \$3,677 |

GAMBRILL HOUSE
 (Edgewood, Boscobel)
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Figure #3 Survey of the Gambrill property, made July 21, 1897,
 Frederick County Land Records, DHH 1: 16.



Scale of 40 Equal parts

This Survey made July 21, 1897
 from point of compass registered
 declination being 4° 40'

Edward Albough
 County Surveyor

ADDENDUM TO:
GAMBRILL HOUSE
(Edgewood)
(Boscobel)
Monocacy National Battlefield
Urbana Park
Frederick vicinity
Frederick County
Maryland

HABS MD-1051
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